

ABSTRACT

A composition for administration of a therapeutic compound to a multi-drug resistant cell in a person suffering from a drug-resistant cancer is described. The composition is composed of a carrier molecule and a folate targeting ligand, which is covalently attached to the carrier, and the therapeutic compound. In one preferred embodiment, the carrier is a liposome having a surface coating of hydrophilic polymer chains where a folate ligand is attached to the free distal end of at least a portion of the hydrophilic polymer chains, and the therapeutic agent is entrapped in the liposomes. The composition is effective to achieve accumulation of the therapeutic compound in the cell in an amount sufficient to be cytotoxic. Also described are methods for administering a therapeutic compound to a person suffering from a multi-drug resistant condition.